



Welcome to the third edition of our newsletter in 2014. We take this newsletter as an opportunity to provide you with news of the SOCKS FOR LIFE exhibition that took place beginning of April in the European Parliament in Brussels. Further, you find information about us and our partners in the health professional and patient community as well as what has happened on political level within Europe. Enjoy reading!
Your EFCNI team



SOCKS FOR LIFE Exhibition Opening on 7 April 2014

Long awaited and steadily worked towards, it was quickly over. However, the SOCKS FOR LIFE art exhibition in the European Parliament in Brussels was a huge success!

More than 100 international guests, Members of the European Parliament and representatives of other European Institutions came together to celebrate the opening of the art exhibition SOCKS FOR LIFE. A big thank you to all those who contributed to the exhibition and turned it into such a wonderful event.

[View more](#)



EMA: European database of suspected adverse drug reaction reports

The European Medicine Agency (EMA) provides an online platform with access to suspected side-effect reports of authorised medicines in the European Economic Area. They also provide a list of all regulatory authorities in the EEA where patients can retrieve information on how to report a side effect.

[View more](#)



EFCNI's next milestone project to minimise health inequalities in Europe: Standards of Care for Newborn Health

On the occasion of the SOCKS FOR LIFE exhibition opening in the European Parliament in Brussels, the new EFCNI project Standards of Care for Newborn Health was officially started. In the course of the project, harmonised care standards for Europe will be developed for a wide range of topics in preterm birth and newborn health.

[View more](#)



Welcome: new EFCNI colleague

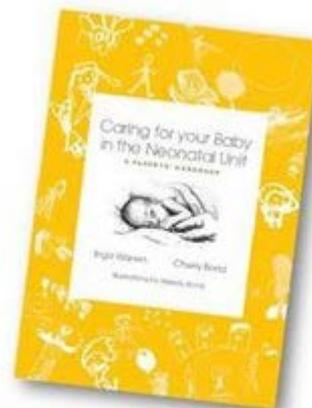
The EFCNI team is very proud and happy to introduce to you a new team member: Iris Nikola Knierim. After finalising her PhD thesis in Psychology at the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, she started in March as Project Manager for the EFCNI Standards of Care.

[View more](#)



Caring for your baby on the neonatal unit

We would like to introduce this little handbook for parents who have babies in newborn intensive care or special care units. Written by Inga Warren, occupational therapist and Cherry Bond, neonatal nurse, this handbook guides parents, week-by-week from early days in intensive care until the baby is at home. It helps parents to understand what their baby expects and needs, and teaches them, as parents, to have faith in themselves.



Belgian parent organisation VVOC's media success of SOCKS FOR LIFE event

Congratulations to the Belgian parent organisation VVOC who made it into Belgian prime time news. Watch below the video online showing the SOCKS FOR LIFE event in the European Parliament in Brussels. Affected families in Belgium and VVOC president Yannic Verhaest are interviewed. Congratulations to this big success!

[View more \(TV link, Flemish language\)](#)



Annual Meeting of French Parent Organisation SOS Préma

Beginning of April the SOS Préma headquarter team and their local correspondents had their 9th annual training seminar: three intense days they met for debate, discuss, exchange experiences, welcome new members and elaborate on the many new projects for the coming year. They joined together to reaffirm the strengths and values of the SOS Préma community for these precious and fragile babies who will be the adults of tomorrow.



XXIV European Congress of Perinatal Medicine

"Our cultural journey never ends, it only has resting places, points where the traveller can look around and collect his thoughts". Under this motto, from 4-7 June, the XXIV European Congress of Perinatal Medicine (ECPM) will take place in Florence, Italy. Meet EFCNI as association partner of this congress and join this interesting congress around perinatal medicine! Early bird registration is available until 15 May.

[View more \(conference website\)](#)



Public consultation on Scientific Opinion: infant and follow-on formulae

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has launched an open consultation on the draft scientific opinion on the essential composition of infant and follow-on formulae. Interested parties are invited to submit written comments by 29 May 2014.

[View more \(EFSA website\)](#)



EFCNI chairwoman Silke Mader appointed Honorary Lecturer

We are proud to announce that Silke Mader has been appointed as Honorary Lecturer at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Established in 1991, the School provides a range of innovative programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level, which prepares nurses, midwives and healthcare professionals for leadership roles in clinical care, teaching, management and research.



PREBIC Annual Meeting and Workshop

The annual PREBIC conference and workshops were held at World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland, end of March. One highlight was the presentation “Global Burden of Preterm Birth” by Prof. Marleen Temmerman, Director RHR/WHO.

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Review of medicines containing ambroxol and bromhexine

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has started a review of medicines containing ambroxol and bromhexine. Formulations for injection of these drugs are used in preterm and newborn babies to treat respiratory distress syndrome (RDS), a condition in which the baby’s lungs are too immature for the baby to breathe properly. Some of these formulations are also used to increase lung maturation before birth. The reasons are concerns over an increased number of reports of allergic reactions, including anaphylactic reactions with ambroxol. Medicines containing ambroxol have also been linked to severe skin adverse reactions.

[View more \(EMA press release\)](#)

Maternal dietary patterns and preterm delivery: results from large prospective cohort study

A research group around Prof. Bo Jacobsson examined, if an association between maternal dietary patterns and risk of preterm delivery exists. For this, they conducted a prospective cohort study with 66 000 pregnant women and calculated hazard ratios for preterm delivery according to level of adherence to three specific dietary patterns.

[View more](#)

Mark your calendar

Receive an overview on [congresses and conferences in 2014](#) and find out where to meet EFCNI.

[Awareness days in 2014](#)



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